E UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

George H. HOFFMAN, et al.

Title:

SUPPLY CHAIN

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

INTERFACE

Appl. No.:

09/815,490

Filing Date: 03/23/2001

Examiner:

Florian M. Zeender

Art Unit:

3627

AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.111

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Non-Final Office Action dated February 24, 2004, concerning the above-referenced patent application.

Applicant has enclosed with this amendment a Petition for Extension of Time to make this response timely.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this document.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 23 of this document.

Please amend the application as follows: